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## NEWS RELEASE

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### PRESIDENT COURTNEY ANNOUNCES SPECIAL SESSION DECISION

SALEM –Senate President Peter Courtney today announced that senators by a vote of 19-1 have, in effect, rejected an effort to call a special legislative session within the next few weeks. The remaining 10 senators have until 5 p.m. on Feb. 1 to vote but, under the Oregon Constitution, a majority of the Senate is required to call the Legislature into special session.

“By their vote, a majority of senators agreed that the Legislature is not ready to enter into a special session. I strongly support a special session to deal with the Department of Human Services budget shortfall, but I continue to assert that the timing of such a session is critical. We will receive more details regarding the full extent of the problem in a few months. Armed with this additional information, we can decide how to address the problem. Then, and only then, should we convene a special session.”

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